

St. Louis Catholic Church

53 Allen Street East, Waterloo ON N2J 1J3 Tel: 519-743-4101

Email: stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com Web site: www.saintlouisparish.ca

Served by the Congregation of the Resurrection since 1890.

Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9 - 12 and 1- 4 p.m.

Summer hours (Canada Day to Labour Day): Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



St Louis Catholic Church



Weekday Masses:

Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m.

Rosary: Tuesday to Friday
before 9:00 a.m. Mass

Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Pastoral Team:

Pastor

Father Phil Reilly, C.R.
preilly@hamiltondiocese.com

Coordinator of Youth and Children's Ministries

Kelly Krause
kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Secretary

Anna Malton
stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

Custodian

Doug Lichty

Welcome new members - Whether you are just passing through the area or looking for a spiritual home, we welcome you to St. Louis Catholic Church. We hope you will find our worship environment hospitable and prayerful. People often attend Mass at a parish for months or years without officially registering. Registration here at St. Louis is an expression of your commitment to being an active member of our community. Parish registration simplifies the process with regard to sponsoring a sacramental candidate; obtaining pastoral references and for preparation of baptisms, weddings and funerals. Registration is easy and can be completed at the Parish Office during regular office hours. Registration forms are available at the back of the Church.

Parish Records - Our parish records are very important. We try to keep them up to date. Please advise the office of any changes.

Music in the Liturgy - Music plays an integral role in the liturgical life of the parish.

Our music directors are: 5:00 p.m. & 9:30 a.m. - Bob Reinhart (robertreinhart182@msn.com)
11:30 a.m. - Donna McLellan (donna-ipad@hotmail.com)

Sunday programs for children - During the Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. Mass there is babysitting for children under 3 years of age, Sunday School for 3 to 6 years of age and Children's Liturgy of the Word for children ages 7 and up.

Sacramental Life - St. Louis Parish celebrates the sacraments for its members who are registered and regularly attending. If you are not registered you are automatically a member of a parish closest to you.

Baptism - Please speak with a priest after Mass on Sunday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays 4 - 4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

Marriage - For registered and supporting members, please contact the parish office at least one year in advance of your date.

Becoming Catholic - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, preparing adults for baptism and/or to join the community. Please contact the office for further information.

Anointing and Pastoral Care - Our parish community cares about the sick and elderly and the lonely. Please notify the parish office to arrange for them to receive the Anointing of the Sick, or to have the Holy Communion brought to them.

Pastoral Care to those in Hospital - A family member is asked to contact the parish whenever a parishioner is in hospital and requests a pastoral visit, or Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing).

Priesthood and Religious Life - Is God calling you to religious life, as a Brother, Deacon or Priest? If so, please contact the Vocation Director for the Congregation of the Resurrection, at resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com or www.resurrectionists.ca

Diocesan Newsletter - For information about Activities and Events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online Diocesan Newsletter at www.hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Organizations and Contacts:

Altar Servers Coordinator
Dave Pagett, 519-744-7705

Catechesis of The Good Shepherd,
Kelly Krause, 519-743-4101

Finance Council
Terry Collins, 519-741-1534

Grounds & Gardens
Peter Brill, 519-886-5266

Catholic Women's League
Donna Herbstreit, 519-884-9380
donna.marie2000@icloud.com

Knights of Columbus - Waterloo
Council 5135 - 519-884-2060

OOTC Community Suppers
John Pendergast, 519-574-3384 &
Debbie Delattre

St. Vincent de Paul
For assistance or information
call 519-743-4101

Ministry to the Elderly & Homebound
Cecilia Beechey, 519-572-5435

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Sandra Williams, 519-742-9239

Prayer Chain
Sharon Carey, 519-746-8073

Parish Webmaster
Daniel Delattre,
daniel@uwaterloo.ca



2025 – YEAR OF JUBILEE – PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS

| | | | |
|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| Monday, December 1 | | | |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | | Gym |
| 5:30 PM | Good Shepherd Catechesis | | Nursery |
| 7:30 PM | Bible Study – Acts – 9/20 | | L. Hall |
| Tuesday, December 2 | | | |
| 9:00 AM | Intentions of Ioanna – Malton Family | | |
| 9:30 AM | Book Club | | L. Hall |
| All day | Thresholds Christmas Party | | Gym |
| Wednesday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest | | | |
| 9:00 AM | † John Clifton Young – Elaine Young | | |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | | Gym |
| 7:00 PM | For Peace in the World – CWL Mass | | |
| 7:30 PM | CWL Meeting | | L. Hall |
| Thursday, December 4 | | | |
| 9:00 AM | † Marcella Beechey – Beechey Family | | |
| 12:15 – 1 PM | Fit Club | | Gym |
| Friday, December 5 | | | |
| 9:00 AM | | | |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | | Gym |
| 5:30 – 8 PM | Family Christmas Party | | L. Hall |
| Saturday, December 6 – St. Nicholas, Bishop | | | |
| 9:30 AM – 3 PM | Craft Club | | L. Hall |
| 9:30 AM - NOON | Making simple decorations for Jan 31 st Ceili | | |
| Vigil of Second Sunday of Advent | | | |
| 5:00 PM | † John Kenny & Terence Bayley – Pat & Joan Forde | | |
| | † Carol Schneider – Ron Schneider | | |
| | † John Clifton Young – Elaine Young | | |
| | † John Horan – Shirley Clairmont | | |
| Sunday, December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent | | | |
| 9:30 AM | † Deceased Members of Malton & Adamski Families – Family | | |
| 10:30 AM | Coffee Time | | L. Hall |
| 10:40 AM | Planning Meeting for Ceili on Jan. 31/26 | L. Hall corner | by the piano |
| 11:30 AM | People of St. Louis Parish | | |
| 12:30 PM | Lunch & Bible Study – Acts – 10/20 | | L. Hall |
| 5 PM | OOTC Community Supper | | Gym |

From All About Advent from Dynamic Catholic website and Bp. Barron reflection on Advent:

What is Advent? - The season of Advent is a time of expectation, when we prepare our home and our hearts to celebrate the three comings of Christ. There is the coming of Christ in history in Bethlehem, the coming of Christ now as He approaches our hearts, and the coming of Christ someday in the future. All three of these dimensions belong to our Advent preparation. The word Advent is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means “coming”.

Advent is a season of hope, a time to nurture peace and experience joy in anticipation for the love that is made incarnate with the birth of Jesus. Keep this purpose ever in mind as you make your plans to prepare for Christmas. Everything will make sense or become senseless in relation to this purpose. Wake up each day with this purpose in your heart and on your mind. Purpose has a way of transforming the way we live our lives. Allow the purpose of Advent to transform you. This year, Advent begins on Sunday, November 30, 2025.

Advent Traditions - God created you to flourish. Are you flourishing this year? As you look to Christmas are you confident that what you have planned is going to help you and those you love to flourish? If not, it is time to adjust the plan. It is time for some fun, healthy, serious,

lighthearted, profound, and bold routines, rituals, and traditions. They all play a powerful role in human flourishing. They can be as silly as Christmas pajamas and as profound as Sunday Mass.

The season of Advent is a wonderful time to establish, or reestablish some routines, rituals, and traditions. Here are just a few examples of Advent traditions many Catholics implement:

Advent Calendars - These special calendars don't just track the days of Advent—each day of the calendar also contains a numbered flap, which opens to show a picture or a small surprise. Each box is filled with daily inspiration that will help your kids grow through Bible verses, reflections, and holiday fun!

Advent Wreaths - Many Catholic families set up an Advent wreath, which has three purple candles and one pink candle. Every week, you light a new candle and say a special Advent prayer. *(To be continued)*

Saint Vincent De Paul Toy Drive - Our St. Louis Conference of SVDP, will be setting up an Angel Tree in the lobby of the church to support our Knights of Columbus in their Toy drive for families in need this Christmas. We ask for your generosity by claiming an angel from the tree and purchasing a toy for a boy or girl whose age will be written on the angel. This year we have been asked to focus on children aged 10 to 14 as this is the area most in need. Please take an angel from Nov. 30th to Dec 14th. We ask that unwrapped gifts with the angel label attached, are brought to the church by Dec. 14th in order that they can be distributed to children before Christmas. Thank you for your generosity for our neighbours in need.



Attention Ladies: This is a friendly reminder that November is the month we submit our membership dues of \$45. You can either use the blue envelope in your offerings box or use your own envelope plainly marked "CWL Membership Dues". Cash or cheques made out to: St. Louis CWL are welcome. We also offer e-transfer to our Treasurer, Patti Pagett: dpac@golden.net. Thank you!



St. Louis CWL warmly welcomes ALL ladies to our last General Meeting of 2025 on Wed., Dec. 3rd, beginning with Mass at 7 PM. Following Mass, we will install our new Executive for the 2026-2027 term. Please join us in welcoming these ladies in carrying on the mission of the league to serve God and Canada. In lieu of a guest speaker, we will have a Christmas celebration in the Large Hall with festive treats and carolling. Join us for a fun evening that will leave you in the Christmas spirit!

"Forgiving Each other ~ and Ourselves". We all sin. In that, we separate ourselves from God. Yet, in our human weakness, our loving & merciful God meets us in our sin & struggle. We may fight a spiritual battle within, resistant to forgive those who have offended us ~ *we may also struggle to forgive ourselves* ~ even after God has forgiven us. Join us for the **St. Agnes Education Cafe** for this timely Advent talk on Forgiveness & the Sacrament of Reconciliation, with Fr. Francisco Cruz, Pastor of St. John's Parish, & Missionary of Mercy, appointed by Pope Francis. Wed. Dec. 3rd, 6:30 - 8pm, St. Agnes Parish.

The Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, a community of Contemplative Sisters, have been present in the Diocese of Hamilton since 1946. In addition to their ministry of prayer, they produce altar breads for many of our Parishes (including for St. Louis). You are welcome to contact them if you are interested in exploring a vocation to the Contemplative way of life. www.pbsisters.ca

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil – Thu., Dec. 4, from 10-11 AM opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking - across the road, Schneider Park. Any queries, please contact Cathy at: cmlamers@rogers.com

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Family Fun Christmas Bash – Come and join the party December 5 from 5:30 PM - 8 PM in the Large Hall. Each family will build a gingerbread nativity scene. We will listen to and sing some Christmas carols, we will play some Reindeer games, and we will share some pizza together. Plan on having a lot of fun! Please RSVP with Kelly Krause at the parish office or in the nursery. We need to know #'s for ordering pizza.



Concert of Songs of Advent and Christmas – Friday, December 12th at 7 PM at St. Louis Church. The concert will feature some of the members of the 11:30 music group. A free will offering will be given to the CWL and St. Vincent de Paul of our parish. Refreshments in the Large Hall will follow.

Heartache to Healing – Grief Support Group - Coping with Christmas - Grieving the loss of a loved one at any time is difficult but it can seem all the worse as we approach the Christmas season. This time of year often reminds us of our loved ones who are no longer with us along with feelings of loss and sadness. We may begin to worry about our sense of belonging and how we are going to cope without our loved one. Join us as we watch a video and discuss ways to cope while still being able to find joy in each moment trusting that there will be brighter days ahead. Wed., Dec. 10th, 7 – 8:30 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM) at St. Michael Parish (Parish Centre – basement) – 80 University Ave. W., Waterloo. For more information and to register, please phone or email St. Michael's Parish office (519-884-9311 / parish@stmichaelw.ca).

St. Mary's Truth & Reconciliation Circle - A vigil Mass for the Feast of the Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11th at 5 PM at St. Mary Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows Church, 56 Duke Street West, Kitchener. The story of St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe will be shared before the Eucharistic celebration. Following Mass, hospitality will be provided in the parish hall: 3 Sisters soup & Bannock. All welcome!



St. Nicholas, the man behind the myth, is a historical figure whose life continues to inspire acts of generosity and faith centuries after his time. Known widely as the inspiration for the modern-day Santa Claus, St. Nicholas was far more than a symbol of festive cheer—he was a revered Catholic saint and bishop, celebrated for his profound charity and steadfast devotion to his faith.

Whether saving impoverished families from despair, protecting sailors from peril, or defending the innocent, St. Nicholas embodied Christ-like compassion, which transformed his community and cemented his place in Catholic history. Understanding the real St. Nicholas means looking beyond red suit and reindeer to recognize the saint whose actions reveal the true meaning of love, sacrifice, and generosity.

The Life and Legacy of St. Nicholas - St. Nicholas's journey began in Patara, a coastal city in modern-day Turkey. Born in the 3rd century to wealthy Christian parents, Nicholas was immersed in the teachings of Christ from an early age. Tragedy struck when he was still young—his parents succumbed to illness. Yet, their passing marked a turning point in his life. Inheriting their wealth, Nicholas chose a path of selfless devotion, using his fortune to aid the needy and deepen his commitment to his faith.

Nicholas's remarkable piety and generosity led him to be appointed Bishop of Myra, a city in the Roman province of Lycia. As bishop, he was a shepherd to his people, dedicating his life to prayer, service, and defending the Church against persecution during Emperor Diocletian's reign. His leadership was marked by humility and boldness. He often risked his safety to uphold justice and protect the vulnerable.

The miracles attributed to St. Nicholas are as enduring as they are inspiring. Among the most well-known is the story of the three

impoverished sisters. Their father, unable to afford dowries for their marriages, faced the heartbreaking prospect of selling them into servitude. Learning of their plight, Nicholas secretly delivered bags of gold through their window under the cover of night, saving them from despair. This act of quiet generosity earned him a reputation as a protector of children and a bringer of hope.

Another celebrated tale speaks to his role as the patron saint of sailors. During a treacherous voyage, a group of sailors cried out to him for intercession when a violent storm threatened to destroy their ship. According to tradition, Nicholas appeared to calm the seas, guiding them safely to shore. Such stories cemented his legacy as a figure of divine intervention and unwavering kindness.

St. Nicholas left an indelible mark on the Church and the world as a man of profound faith and a miracle worker. His life reminds us that generosity and compassion, when rooted in faith, have the power to change lives and inspire generations. Today, his legacy endures in Catholic devotion and the spirit of giving he epitomized.

The modern image of Santa Claus—complete with his red suit, sleigh, and endless stream of toys—has become a global symbol of holiday cheer. However, this commercialized figure, driven by marketing campaigns and consumer culture, often overshadows the deeply spiritual origins tied to St. Nicholas. While Santa Claus inspires joy and giving, the focus on material gifts and spectacle can distract from the profound lessons offered by the real St. Nicholas—a man whose life embodied the true meaning of Christmas. His acts of quiet generosity highlight a spirit of giving rooted in love, not an obligation. St. Nicholas reminds us that the greatest gifts reflect Christ's love and serve the needs of others. To keep the true spirit of Christmas alive, families can look to St. Nicholas' example: celebrate his feast day, shift the focus to giving, incorporate spiritual reflection, read scripture and pray together, connect your family's Christmas traditions to the birth of Christ and the values St. Nicholas embodied. (*From magiscenter.com*)



Resurrectionist Vocation Minute - Noah entered the ark because he trusted God. Others ignored God's voice. At the beginning of Advent, the Church invites the same trust. If you sense a call to consecrated life, take the next step. Let God guide you. Are you ready to follow where He leads? Fr. Pawel Szymanowski, CR; resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar! A Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year of Hope will be celebrated at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Sunday, Dec. 28th, at 3 PM. It will also be the Mass of Thanksgiving offered for Bp. Douglas Crosby, OMI, 15-years of service as Bishop of Hamilton.

SOCIAL EVENTS AT ST. LOUIS PARISH COMING UP:

Dec. 5 – 5:30- 8 PM - **Family Fun Christmas Bash** – see announcement.

Dec. 12 - 7 PM - **Concert of Songs of Advent and Christmas**.

Jan. 3 – 6 PM – **Epiphany Potluck, Carols and Games** – Time to celebrate with other parishioners this festive season - more info to come.

Jan. 31 – 4:30 – 10 PM **Annual Potluck and Ceili Dance, and also Children Games** – More info to come. The decorating theme is "Fairy Tales". Wear a costume if you wish!

Ceili planning meeting will be on Sunday Dec. 7th at 10:40 AM (during the Coffee Time) in the Large Hall (corner near the piano).



Ceili Dance decorations making session Sat., Dec. 6th from 9:30 till Noon in the Large Hall – **Please lend a hand** in making simple decorations for our next ceili. No special skills required. Everyone welcome!

| Date | Sunday | Mainten. | Loose | Diocesan | PAD |
|--------|---------|----------|--------|----------|---------|
| Nov 23 | 1964.00 | 75.00 | 521.50 | 1800.00 | 2310.15 |

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